

“FAMILY CARE”

By
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Synopsis

A young Deacon is burdened with his new responsibility in the Family Care Ministry. Fearful of rejection, he struggles to make contact with his assigned church families. This sketch explains the purpose of a Family Care Ministry.

Scripture(s)

Acts 6:1-4

Exodus 18:13-27

Ministry Lesson

The Pastor may not be able to have a personal relationship with every member of his/her church. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Deacons, and other church leaders, to establish close relationships with the membership on behalf of the Pastor.

Ministry Focus

Family Care

Genre: Comedy

Cast

Husband

Wife

Costumes

Normal 'around the house' clothes

Props

Table and 1 chair

Telephone

Laundry basket filled with clothes

Time: 7 mins.

"FAMILY CARE"

INTERIOR - LIVING ROOM -EVENING

HUSBAND (MICHAEL) IS PACING BACK AND FORTH, RUBBING HANDS TOGETHER TO CONTROL HIS NERVOUSNESS. WIFE ENTERS CARRYING A LAUNDRY BASKET OF CLOTHES.

WIFE

Michael, I know you're not still worrying about that phone call.

HUSBAND

(lying)

Oh, ah, no, I'm just thinking, that's all.

WIFE

Ah huh. You've been trying to get up enough nerve to make that phone call for three days now. What are you worried about?

HUSBAND

(bigger lie)

I'm not nervous. I just want to be careful...be sure of what I want to say.

WIFE PUT LAUNDRY BASKET DOWN AND PICKS UP THE PHONE

WIFE

You pick up the phone and say "Hi, this is Deacon James calling on behalf of the Pastor and the Family Care Ministry".

HUSBAND

Oh you make it sound so simple.

WIFE

Well it is.

HUSBAND

Then why don't you do it.

WIFE

Because I'm not part of the Family Care Ministry, you are.

HUSBAND

(vexed)

Family care! Family care! People don't want me bearing their burdens. I can barely care for my own family.

WIFE

It's not about bearing the burden of the church members. It's about helping the Pastor bear the burden of caring for the church membership.

HUSBAND

How do you know?

WIFE BEGINS FOLDING CLOTHES IN LAUNDRY BASKET.

WIFE

Dad is a Deacon over at Faith Baptist Church. He's been involved in Family Care Ministry since I was a little girl.

HUSBAND

(increasingly worried)

Why didn't the Pastor ask me to do something simple, like build a new church or end world hunger.

WIFE

You're making a mountain out of a molehill.

HUSBAND

What if I just mailed everyone a letter?

WIFE

No!

HUSBAND

Put an announcement in the church
bulletin?

WIFE

No!

HUSBAND

Send a Tweet?

(intensifies)

WIFE

No!

HUSBAND

Put a message in a bottle?

WIFE

No!

HUSBAND

Tie a note on a pigeon?

(high intensity)

WIFE

No!

(ponders for a moment)

HUSBAND

I know. I'll just imitate the Pastor.
They'll think he's calling them.
(practice - imitate your Pastor) "Hello,
is this the Baker family? This is
Pastor [your Pastor's name] just calling
to let you know we love you and care
about you, God bless".

WIFE SLAPS HUSBAND ON THE SHOULDER

WIFE

Now stop acting ridiculous. God might call you to preach one day, then you'll really be burdened.

HUSBAND

(really scared)

Yeah, you're right.

WIFE

In the book of Acts, the apostles recognized the need for family care. They assigned men of faith to care for the needs of the people because it was too much for them to bear alone. So we can't expect our Pastor to care for *[number of members in your church]* church members all the time. It will wear him out. (complaining) You can't even keep track of your three children.

HUSBAND

(flabbergasted)

Three! I thought we had two children.

WIFE PLAYFULLY THROWS A PIECE OF LAUNDRY AT HER HUSBAND.
MICHAEL SUDDENLY REMEMBERS.

WIFE

So anyway, the Pastor asked you and other leaders in the church that have a heart for ministry and love for people to help him, not replace him.

WIFE PICKS UP PHONE AND HANDS IT TO HER HUSBAND

WIFE - CONT'D

Now call. (repeat) CALL!

MICHAEL RELUCTANTLY TAKES PHONE AND BEGINS TO DIAL A NUMBER. AFTER A FEW MOMENTS, MICHAEL HANGS UP THE PHONE.

(shocked) **WIFE**
What happened? Why did you hang up the phone?

(lying) **HUSBAND**
Ah...it was an answering machine.

WIFE
Well, why didn't you leave a message?

(struggling) **HUSBAND**
Ah...well... it didn't ask me to leave a message.

(suspicious) **WIFE**
Wait a minute, all answering machines allow you to leave a message. Give me the phone.

THEY STRUGGLE OVER THE PHONE FOR A FEW SECONDS. WIFE WINS.

WIFE
What's the number?

(trying to buy time) **HUSBAND**
The number? What number?

WIFE
Forget it. I'll press redial.

WIFE PRESSES REDIAL, LISTENS, AND REPEATS WHAT SHE HEARS.

WIFE - CONT'D
"At the tone the time will be 7:34 and 10 seconds" (stares at Michael in disbelief) You dialed the time?

HUSBAND

(covering up)

I...I just wanted to know the time
before I called. I don't want to call
anyone too late.

- End of Preview -

The Husband/Deacon tries everything to get out of making this
call, but his wife will not give up and she eventually convinces
him to call. In the end, he's happy in did.
